



Spring (2014 film)

Spring is a 2014 romantic body horror film directed by Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead and starring Lou Taylor Pucci and Nadia Hilker.^[4] The film follows Evan, a young man who travels to Italy and pursues a woman named Louise who, unknown to Evan, is not entirely human.

Spring premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival on September 5, 2014,^[5] before receiving a limited theatrical release through Drafthouse Films on March 20, 2015.^[6] The film received positive reviews from critics and grossed \$49,970 worldwide.^[7]

Plot

Evan Russell, a young American man, loses his mother to cancer. After her funeral, he gets into a physical altercation at the restaurant where he works and loses his job. On his friend's advice, Evan travels to Italy and meets a flirtatious girl named Louise. Interested in pursuing a relationship with her, he starts living in a small town in southern Italy, working at a local farm.

Louise, who initially rejected Evan, finally has sex with him without using a condom. The next morning, she wakes up before he does and has a monstrous appearance. After leaving, she kills a cat. After a few dates where they explore the town together, Louise asks Evan about his family. Although he is reluctant to reveal details, he relents and asks Louise to tell him something about her. Louise takes out a contact lens from her right eye to show Evan that she has heterochromia. Evan sees the same condition reflected in the women on many of the paintings in the museum and also on the cover of a book. One night, Louise is having dinner with Evan when her skin condition becomes worse. She runs off the street and is followed by a tourist who mistakes her for a prostitute. Louise unwillingly kills him after she mutates into a reptilian creature.

Spring



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	<u>Justin Benson</u> <u>Aaron Moorhead</u>
Written by	Justin Benson
Produced by	Justin Benson Aaron Moorhead David Clarke Lawson, Jr.
Starring	<u>Lou Taylor Pucci</u> <u>Nadia Hilker</u> <u>Francesco Carnelutti</u> <u>Nick Nevern</u>
Cinematography	Aaron Moorhead
Edited by	Justin Benson Aaron Moorhead Michael Felker
Music by	<u>Jimmy LaValle</u>
Production company	XYZ Films ^[1]
Distributed by	<u>Drafthouse Films</u> FilmBuff

Evan, who has been working illegally on the farm, has to leave when immigration police arrive. With nowhere else to go, he visits Louise's house. The door is chain-locked, through which he sees blood on the floor and hears a strange voice. He breaks the chain to open the door and finds an octopus-like creature on the floor wearing Louise's dress, trying to reach a syringe. He quickly picks up the syringe and injects it into the creature's neck.

Release dates	September 5, 2014 (TIFF) March 20, 2015 (United States)
Running time	109 minutes ^[2]
Countries	Italy ^[1] United States ^[1]
Language	English
Box office	\$49,970 ^[3]

Louise reveals to Evan that she is a 2,000-year-old mutant. She is the woman in all of the paintings of women with heterochromia. Every 20th spring, she gets herself pregnant, and her body uses cells in the embryo to recreate her while she changes into different creatures. Shocked, Evan leaves. Louise follows him and tells him more about the condition. She reveals that she avoided using a condom during intercourse to purposely get pregnant. She also reveals that if she falls in love, the hormones will stop the process and turn her mortal. Evan asks if she is in love with him; she replies she is not and would not give up her immortality for anyone.

Evan asks her to spend her last 24 hours with him before she re-evolves. They spend all night talking to each other. In the early morning, Louise takes Evan to the ruins of [Pompeii](#), where she was born, and tells him her family history. The time comes, and Evan makes one last attempt begging her not to change. Louise says she has no control over it and warns that she may attack him. He refuses to go, so Louise lies down with her head on his lap and listens to Evan talk about the experience of being mortal and all its positive aspects. As the sun rises, Evan calmly looks down at Louise as he hears a grotesque sound. However, he finds Louise still in her current human form while [Mount Vesuvius](#), the volcano that resulted in the death of Louise's family, erupts in the background.

Cast

- [Lou Taylor Pucci](#) as Evan Russell
- [Nadia Hilker](#) as Louise
- [Francesco Carnelutti](#) as Angelo
- [Nick Nevern](#) as Thomas
- [Chris Palko](#) as Bancroft Dawson
- Jonathan Silvestri as Sam
- Jeremy Gardner as Tommy
- [Vinny Curran](#) as Mike
- Holly Hawkins as Nicole Russell, Evan's Mom
- [Augie Duke](#) as Jackie
- Vanessa Bednar as Gail
- Shane Brady as Brad

Soundtrack

The soundtrack was composed by [Jimmy Laval](#)^[8] and was released on March 25, 2015, by Laval's own label, Eastern Glow Recordings.^[9]

Release

Spring premiered on September 5, 2014, as part of the [Toronto International Film Festival](#).^[5] The film received a [limited theatrical release](#) on March 20, 2015, through [Drafthouse Films](#)^[6] and a [video on demand](#) release a day later through [FilmBuff](#).^[10]

Critical reception

[Rotten Tomatoes](#), a [review aggregator](#), reports that 85% of 60 surveyed critics gave the film a positive review; the average score is 7.40/10. The site's critics' consensus states: "Rich in atmosphere and intelligence, *Spring* is a singular horror film with a sneaky, lingering impact."^[11] On [Metacritic](#), the film has a rating of 70/100 from 13 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".^[12]

Jon Dickinson of *SCREAM: The Horror Magazine* gave *Spring* a 5 star rating, stating that it "transcends all genres to deliver a story that feels entirely unique...a monster you won't want to miss."^[13]

Mexican filmmaker [Guillermo del Toro](#) has highly praised the film, stating that "[*Spring*] is one of the best horror films of this decade." He added that it is one of the only [Lovecraftian](#) films "that has blown me away."^{[14][15]}

At the [Austin Fantastic Fest](#), it won the Next Wave Award for [Lou Taylor Pucci](#) as Best Actor.^[16] At the [Palm Springs International Film Festival](#), it won Directors to Watch for [Benson](#) and [Moorhead](#).^[17]

References

1. "*Spring* (2015)" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180710162953/http://www.bfi.org.uk/films-tv-people/5517bcb83e46d>). *British Film Institute*. Archived from the original (<https://www2.bfi.org.uk/films-tv-people/5517bcb83e46d>) on July 10, 2018. Retrieved June 25, 2023.
2. "*Spring* (15)" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20160305204813/http://www.bbfc.co.uk/releases/spring-film>). *British Board of Film Classification*. April 21, 2015. Archived from the original (<https://bbfc.co.uk/releases/spring-film>) on March 5, 2016. Retrieved April 21, 2015.
3. "*Spring* (2015)" (<https://boxofficemojo.com/movies/?id=spring2015.htm>). *Box Office Mojo*. [Internet Movie Database](#). Retrieved April 21, 2015.
4. Miska, Brad (March 23, 2015). "'Spring' Clip Sacrifices for Life (Exclusive)" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/videos/3337240/spring-clip-sacrifices-life-exclusive/>). *Bloody Disgusting*.
5. TIFF.net | *Spring* (<http://www.tiff.net/festivals/thefestival/programmes/vanguard/spring-1>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20150214051844/http://www.tiff.net/festivals/thefestival/programmes/vanguard/spring-1>) February 14, 2015, at the [Wayback Machine](#)
6. Barton, Steve (February 13, 2015). "Spring Trailer Grows Up" (<https://dreadcentral.com/news/89789/spring-trailer-grows/>). *Dread Central*.
7. "*Spring* (2015)" (<https://boxofficemojo.com/movies/?id=spring2015.htm>). *Box Office Mojo*. [Internet Movie Database](#). Retrieved April 21, 2015.
8. Barkan, Jonathan (March 20, 2015). "Directors Justin Benson and Aaron Moorehead Talk The Music Of 'Spring' (Interview)" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/news/3337010/director-just-in-benson-talks-the-music-of-spring-interview/>). *Bloody Disgusting*.

9. Barkan, Jonathan (March 19, 2015). "'Spring' OST Available Early Next Week: Tracks Included In BitTorrent Bundle" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/news/3336700/spring-ost-available-early-next-week-tracks-included-in-bittorrent-bundle/>). *Bloody Disgusting*.
10. Miska, Brad (February 13, 2015). "Horror Will 'Spring' to Life In this Lovecraftian Love Story" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/videos/3332482/horror-will-spring-life-lovecraftian-horror-trailer/>). *Bloody Disgusting*.
11. "Spring (2015)" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/spring_2015). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved September 15, 2019.
12. "Spring Reviews" (<https://metacritic.com/movie/spring>). *Metacritic*. CBS Interactive. Retrieved June 14, 2016.
13. Dickinson, Jon (March 22, 2015). "SPRING: Film Review" (<http://www.screamhorrormag.com/spring-film-review/>). *Scream: The Horror Magazine*. Retrieved April 29, 2015.
14. Guillermo del Toro [@RealGDT] (July 10, 2016). "Just in case I wasn't clear: Spring is one of the best horror films of this decade. And the only Lovecraftian film that has blown me away" (<https://x.com/RealGDT/status/752217217929019393>) (Tweet). Retrieved July 14, 2016 – via Twitter.
15. Guillermo del Toro [@RealGDT] (July 10, 2016). "@RealGDT Other than 'Alien' and 'Possession' of course" (<https://x.com/RealGDT/status/752218509392904192>) (Tweet). Retrieved July 14, 2016 – via Twitter.
16. The 2014 Fantastic Fest Awards Recipients | Fantastic Fest (<http://fantasticfest.com/news/entry/the-2014-fantastic-fest-awards-recipients>)
17. Spring - 2015 Palm Springs International Film Festival (<https://web.archive.org/web/20150924082849/http://www.psfilmfest.org/festival/film/detail.aspx?id=25383&fid=73>)

External links

- Official website (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180520092857/http://drafhousefilms.com/film/spring>)
 - *Spring* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3395184/>) at IMDb
-

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Spring_\(2014_film\)&oldid=1295178119](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Spring_(2014_film)&oldid=1295178119)"